



HIGHLY ENCOURAGING IS THE NEWS

From the Philippine Islands, From Both the Army and Navy.

MEAGRE NEWS FROM FRONT.

But it is of Encouraging Kind, Indicating the Practical End of the Insurrection.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 29.—The following cablegram has been received at the navy department from Admiral Watson:

"Cavite, Nov. 29.—Wilde reports the capture of Vigan on November 28th by the Oregon's landing force under Lieutenant Commander McCrackin, with Lieutenants McCormick, Bostwick, Johnston and Captain Williams and Lieutenant Bermeley, of the marine corps. The landing was covered by the Callao, Tappin commanding, and the Samar, Mustin commanding. Slight resistance; no casualties. Inhabitants welcomed the flag. McCrackin is holding Vigan until relieved by the army. Lieutenant Gilmore is well with seven men twenty-five miles from Vigan. Received Meyer code letter from Gilmore by Alfred Soelchen, newspaper artist, who was with Gilmore seven months and escaped. Brought here by Samar. News from insurgents through a Spanish sergeant indicates Urdana crew killed except the four following: Farley, Green, Powers, Burke. Names of the Gilmore party, Walton, Vincit, Ellsworth, Briscoe, Anderson, Edwards, Peterson. Some wounded were left at Bater. Gilmore has no news of them."

"WATSON." The above dispatch, taken in connection with the advices received to-day from General Otis, describing the success of the movements of the army under Young, encourages the naval officials in the belief that perhaps by this time the American prisoners referred to have already been released. With the naval contingent at Vigan only twenty-five miles away to the west and the army advance probably a little further distant to the southeast, the town of Bagued is nearly surrounded, and there is little chance of the escape of the insurgent force there if they attempt to encumber themselves in their retreat with the prisoners. Taking the list of prisoners of Gilmore's party given in the cable from Admiral Watson, as being at Bagued, the records of the navy department show that the following men must have been left at Bagued, on the east coast of the island, where the Yorktown's boat's crew was captured last spring: John Dillon, Charles A. Morrissey, Ora B. McDonald, William H. Rynders, O. W. Woodbury, D. G. A. Venville and A. J. Nygard.

Altogether the news from both army and naval sources to-day is highly encouraging to the officials here as indicating the practical end of the opposition of the insurgents in the north of Luzon. So far as known the only formidable force is that left in Cavite province under General Tyra and that operating in Panay.

REPORTED SURRENDER

Of the Insurgent Garrison at Bayombong to General Lawton.

MANILA, Nov. 29.—3:55 a. m.—It is supposed that the insurgent garrison at Bayombong, province of Nueva Vizcaya, numbering from 300 to 500, has surrendered to General Lawton, who started for that point with the Thirty-fourth Infantry.

Captain Nichols, who commands a detachment of the Twenty-third Infantry, at Zamboanga, island of Mindanao, has established a provisional government there. The insurgents have surrendered to him four cannon and 200 rifles.

FLINN CASE.

Testimony All In, the Attorneys Ask Time to Prepare Arguments, and Decision May Not be Rendered for Two or Three Weeks.

PITTSBURGH, Pa., Nov. 29.—The testimony in the suit of the city of Pittsburgh against State Senator William Flinn, Major W. C. Moreland, W. H. House and Booth & Flinn, was closed at noon to-day. The lawyers on both sides asked for time to prepare their arguments and Judge J. W. F. White fixed Tuesday morning as the time for hearing them.

The testimony to-day was dry, except that given by Major Moreland in his own behalf. He went on the stand to tell that he had no knowledge of the check transactions until he was shown the checks. He also said that he did not know until he heard the testimony of Mr. House how much money of his own he had in the different banks with the funds of the city. During his term of office, extending from 1882 to 1886, he swore, he never gave five minutes time to his bank accounts. Mr. House deposited all of his money, public and private, and all was credited to the same account. The only connection he had with the accounts at the different banks was to sign the public checks in blank and occasionally draw a check on his private account. He did not know how many private checks he had drawn, nor the aggregate amount of them.

John Meikle, an expert accountant, testified that an examination of the books bearing on this case showed that the city was in debt to Booth & Flinn to the amount of \$360,000.

Counsel for Senator Flinn filed a statement of defense with the court this afternoon, showing that the greatest amount of money borrowed by Senator Flinn was \$24,000 in 1890, and the lowest amount the city and the city attorney was indebted to the firm of Booth & Flinn was \$39,000 in 1887. The counsel claimed that this showing demonstrated clearly that the defendant did not know it was city money he was bor-

FILIBUSTERING EXPEDITIONS

To the Transvaal to Receive Attention—Vigorous Protest From Great Britain.

NEW YORK, Nov. 29.—A special to the Journal and Advertiser from Washington says: Great Britain has protested vigorously to this government against the organization of expeditions in this country, intended presumably for the assistance of the Boers. Lord Pauncefoot made the protest at the state department. Secretary Hay referred Lord Pauncefoot to the secretary of war.

It is no longer a secret that expeditions of importance are being organized. The most notable of these has its headquarters in the suburbs of this city, and another will be equipped with funds to-morrow in New York city. Both of these organizations it is said, have good backing and are under the secret auspices of an agent of the Transvaal now in New York. It is understood that there are millions of Dutch and French money behind these filibustering expeditions.

The state department, the war department and the treasury department have informed the British ambassador that every precaution will be taken to prevent the sailing of armed expeditions in the interest of the Transvaal.

JOSEPH CHAMBERLAIN

Declares the War in Africa Inevitable—Asserts that Boers Have Presented a Clean Sheet for Great Britain to Dictate Terms at Close of the War.

LONDON, Nov. 29.—Addressing a meeting of seven thousand people in Leicester, this evening, Joseph Chamberlain devoted the greater part of a long speech to a justification of the government's policy in South Africa and to a refutation of the arguments of the Earl of Kimberley, Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, and others.

"According to Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman," said Mr. Chamberlain, "we ought to have skulked back to our holes when Mr. Kruger refused to listen to our peaceful representations. That would have lost us South Africa, weakened our hold upon India and earned us the contempt of mankind."

He reiterated that the war was inevitable, "although doubtless Mr. Kruger would have preferred to wait until England was involved with some other power."

Referring to the conditions under which the Gladstone government granted the convention of 1881, he denied that the grant was made because Mr. Gladstone feared a general Dutch rising.

"The real reason," he asserted, "was because the Gladstone government believed the annexation of the Transvaal in 1877 occurred under a misapprehension by Lord Beaconsfield that a majority of the Boers desired action. It was afterward proved that this was not their desire, and the action was cancelled."

Referring to the basis and conditions of settlement after the war, Mr. Chamberlain said:

"I do not like to divide the skin before I have caught the bear, but I must insist that the Boers, by their own action, have created a clean sheet, upon which we can write what we please and I feel convinced that our loyal fellow subjects in Cape Colony and Natal would regard no solution as durable which did not provide beyond the shadow of a doubt for the supremacy of the British flag—the only guarantee of settled peace and the only security for the just treatment of all the races of South Africa."

STILL THEY COME.

Investors' Trust in Philadelphia Closed, and Many Confiding Investors Are Out on "Get Rich" Schemes.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Nov. 29.—The doors of the home office of the Investors trust, 1221 Arch street, doing business exclusively with patrons outside the city and promising large profits on investments, have been closed. Efforts to find Lipman Keene, the president; Charles L. Work, secretary, and Miss M. C. Carson, cashier, were unavailing. The company began business here four years ago. Its plan was to invite the investment of capital, the inducement being held out of interest ranging from 100 to 200 per cent. In explaining why such large gains were made, the company asserted in its literature that it was in the confidence of stock manipulators, and therefore in a position to know the way stocks would go.

As a result of these statements, cash flowed in a steady stream. The force of employees was constantly augmented and the correspondence grew to great proportions. Agents were placed in all parts of the United States. To the company's numerous patrons were sent the first day of each month their dividends in the shape of a check. It is thought that the firm has over \$100,000 invested for their patrons in various stocks. Almost daily five big sacks of mail have been sent by wagon to the postoffice. It is said the company's postage alone has amounted to \$300 a week. All mail is being sent back to the postoffice.

FRANK H. FIELD

Declines to Serve as Receiver of Franklin Syndicate.

NEW YORK, Nov. 29.—An adjournment until Tuesday was taken to-day at the request of Assistant District Attorney Kellogg in the examination of Louis H. Miller, brother of William F. Miller, the fugitive syndicate manager. Among the papers seized by the police when they took possession of the Franklin syndicate's offices there was a box of cancelled and returned checks, on which payment had been made. There were also a dozen ledgers, journals and cash books. For the most part these account books were blank, but there were figures in plenty to show that an enormous business was carried on. There were probably 2,000 names entered altogether. Almost every section of the United States and Canada had representation in amounts ranging from \$10 to \$1,000. One payment of \$456 was to the L. H. M. Investment Company. The initials being those of William F. Miller's brother, Louis H. Miller. From October 14 to November 16, the total amount paid out was \$215,659; total received, \$602,545.

Frank H. Field, of Brooklyn, who was appointed yesterday by Supreme Court Justice Smith to act as receiver for the Franklin syndicate, went before the court to-day and declined to serve.

A SPARK FROM AN ELECTRIC WIRE

Causes a \$2,000,000 Fire in Philadelphia—The Lippincott Publishing House

THE GREATEST SUFFERER.

Other Heavy Losses—Nearly a Block of Business Houses Entirely Destroyed.

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 29.—Nearly \$2,000,000 worth of property was destroyed by two fires in the heart of the business section of the city early to-day. The greater of the two fires started in the big department store of Partridge & Richardson, at the southeast corner of Eighth and Filbert streets, the very center of the shopping district, at 6:20 a. m., and before the flames had been put under control they spread to adjoining property and caused a loss of \$1,700,000. While this fire was in progress and spreading every moment, another fire broke out four blocks away, on the fourth floor of No. 419 Market street. The loss at this fire is estimated at \$110,000. The losses of the two fires are more than covered by insurance.

The eighth street fire was a very ugly one for the firemen to handle. Eighth street and Filbert street are very narrow thoroughfares. There was a strong wind blowing at the time, and the fire fighters had great difficulty in preventing the flames from getting a good hold on the buildings on the opposite side of these streets. As it was, many of the structures and their contents were badly scorched and damaged by water. It took four hours to get the flames under control.

The fire started in the basement of Partridge & Richardson's store from an electric spark and soon the entire building was a mass of flames. The two stores to the south of Partridge & Richardson were soon gutted, and then the flames attacked the big building of the J. B. Lippincott Publishing Company, on Filbert street, east of the burning department store. This publishing house is one of the best known in the country, many high-class reference books, periodicals and numerous other publications being produced by the firm. The building was completely ruined. In this building, stored away in vaults, is nearly a half million dollars worth of manuscripts, plates and other material for reference books, and it is not yet known whether they were destroyed.

Lit Brothers' large department store, which adjoins the Lippincott building, and which is valued with its contents at over \$1,000,000, was saved, but only after the contents of one corner of the building had been damaged. Strawbridge & Clothier, another large department store, on the west side of Eighth street, also had a narrow escape, and the building and contents were damaged to the extent of about \$50,000. A number of other business houses, adjoining Lippincott's and Partridge & Richardson were either entirely destroyed or badly damaged.

The estimated losses are: Partridge & Richardson, \$700,000; J. B. Lippincott Publishing Company, \$600,000; Arthur & Treichler, wholesale house furnishings, \$100,000; Lit Brothers, \$35,000; Strawbridge & Clothier, \$50,000; Bulley's five and ten cent store, \$50,000; Rosenberg's millinery store, \$30,000; Partridge & Sons, restaurant, \$20,000; Westcott & Thompson, electrotypers, \$10,000.

Additional losses aggregating about \$25,000, are divided among A. L. Williams, gloves; Little Jet Jewelry Store; Medinas Parisian hair store; C. Eastburn, corsets; H. Morebach, restaurant; P. T. Hallahan, shoes; R. Goldberg, millinery and cloaks; Woolworth's five and ten cent stores; P. J. Hallahan, shoes; Samuel D. Levy, small wares; F. W. Bean & Co., perfumery; G. Ulrich, wire worker. All the losses are covered by insurance.

The second fire was discovered at 7:30 o'clock in the four story building at 419 Market street, occupied by several manufacturers and wholesale dealers. The entire building was gutted as was also the adjoining building, No. 417. The estimated loss is \$110,000, destroyed by fire, as follows:

A. G. Dowie, wholesale stationer, \$15,000; W. Harris & Sons, wholesale boots and shoes, \$25,000; L. Katz, clothing manufacturer, \$10,000; R. Feinberg, clothing manufacturer, \$5,000, and \$18,000 divided among Hoffman, Cochran & Company, wholesale cordage and wadding; A. J. Bates, boots and shoes; Sullivan, Hat & Company, notions; D. Matusew & Company, shirts; S. Ronovo, shirts and wrappers. The loss on the building is estimated at \$40,000. Over 2,000 persons are thrown out of employment by the fires, but proprietors of other department stores offer temporary employment to all of Partridge & Richardson's 900 employees at the salaries they received from the burned out firm.

Although the big fire raged for over four hours there were no casualties beyond a few minor injuries received by a half dozen firemen.

The Kentucky Will be Accepted.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Nov. 29.—The naval inspection board has completed the calculations in the case of the recent speed trial of the battleship Kentucky and have reported the actual speed made by the ship was 16.87 knots per hour. These figures are sufficient to warrant the navy department in the preliminary acceptance of the Kentucky.

DEWEY'S GENEROSITY.

The Admiral and President Will Pay Expenses of Young Gridley in Preparing for Examination for a Lieutenantancy in the Marine Corps.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Nov. 29.—J. P. V. Gridley, a son of the late Captain Charles V. Gridley, who commanded Admiral Dewey's flagship at the battle of Manila, was to-day designated for appointment as a lieutenant in the marine corps, by President McKinley. Young Gridley is too old to enter Annapolis, and the only opening for him in the navy lay in an appointment to the marine corps; but he lacked the necessary education, and, worse than all, the money for study. The boy was too modest to tell anyone of his situation, but Admiral Dewey, who loved his father, suspected it, and decided to act. He determined to pay the boy's expenses while studying for the lieutenantancy.

This morning he met young Gridley at the white house and presented him to the President. Admiral Dewey started to explain the situation, when the President interrupted him and said: "You and I, Admiral, will pay his expenses in preparing for examination. If he fails in the first examination, I will give him another chance; but I am sure he will be ready when the time comes."

An Admiral Dewey and the young man were descending the white house steps the admiral was saying to the son of his old comrade: "Now, you keep an account of your expenses and let me know what they are."

At the foot of the steps the admiral ran into a group of newspaper men. "I shall be glad to give you an item this morning," said the admiral. "The President has just agreed to designate this young man, a son of Captain Gridley, for examination for a lieutenantancy in the marine corps. But he has no money with which to prepare himself for the examination," he continued. "However, the President and I are going to attend to that."

Mr. Gridley's mother, the widow of the gallant commander of the Olympia, is living at Erie, Pa. She is drawing a pension of \$30 a month, which her friends in Congress will seek to have increased by special act during the approaching session.

CORN STALKS

To be Utilized as Food for Horses and Cattle—Interesting Experiments Conducted by the Agricultural Department.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Nov. 29.—A series of experiments which have been carried on for some time past by the agricultural department, have recently developed a new use for corn stalks, from which a very valuable horse and cattle food can now be made. The department has done a great deal of work with corn stalks in the past year and has developed several valuable uses for them, namely coffer-dam packing for warships; a high grade of writing paper, the basis for a smokeless powder superior to the picric acid powders, and several other uses.

The new cattle food is made by grinding the dry corn stalks, leaves and tops to a powder and mixing it with blood or molasses or both. This is pressed into cakes under a hydraulic press and can be shipped as easily as bricks or cordwood. For feeding it is broken up and mixed with water. Actual tests have been made at experiment stations and samples have been sent to agricultural stations in Europe. The reports from all sources are very encouraging. It is said at the department that this food will be particularly valuable for our cavalry in the tropics and that the food cakes can be made at a minimum cost in Cuba and the southern states, where thousands of tons of low grade molasses go to waste annually, and where the cane refuse ground fine forms almost as satisfactory an absorbent base as corn stalks. The cost of making the food cakes under fairly favorable conditions would be from \$10 to \$12 per ton and their value on a nutritive basis would be from \$22 to \$25.

BOND PURCHASES.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Nov. 29.—The secretary of the treasury to-day announced that he would continue until the close of business on December 23 next to purchase any United States bonds offered, known as 4 per cents of 1907 and 5 per cents of 1904, at the prices heretofore paid, namely, one hundred and eleven for the fives, with accrued interest to date of purchase, unless before such date the amount of seven million dollars (\$7,000,000) approximately, which is the amount necessary to complete the twenty-five millions heretofore announced, shall have been received, of which fact, when it occurs, public notice will be given.

The purchases to-day amounted to a little over \$1,900,000, making the total to date approximately \$13,000,000.

Marcum Not Heard From.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Nov. 29.—Nothing has been heard from United States Consul Marcum at Pretoria for the past five days. The state department would like to be able to relieve him at his request and will do so if it is possible to send a man through the lines.

RAILWAY WRECK

At Paterson, N. J.—List of Killed and Injured.

NEW YORK, Nov. 29.—Four persons were killed and about a score injured, some probably fatally in a railroad wreck on the Lackawanna at a crossing at Paterson, N. J., to-night. The Philadelphia accommodation, west-bound, crashed into the rear of Buffalo express, known as No. 6, while the latter was standing at the depot. The Philadelphia train was No. 96. The two rear cars of the express were totally wrecked. Following is a list of the dead: Mrs. Mary Roe, wife of David Roe, of Ithaca, N. Y.; and two daughters, Walter Wyckoff, Cornell College, Ithaca, N. Y.; Miller Craig, New York City; unknown woman.

His Young Wife Suspected.

GALLIPOLIS, Ohio, Nov. 29.—The dead body of Squire John Creamans, with a bullet hole in the head, was found to-day in bed in his home, at Glenwood, twelve miles south of this city. Creamans was aged and wealthy. His young wife cannot be found.

THE THREE PLY CRAZY QUILT TO BE PATCHED

Up Again to Cover Free Silver Republicans, Democrats and the Surviving Populists.

ACTION TAKEN YESTERDAY

Which Makes the Combination of 1896 Again the Foe of the Sound Money Adherents.

CHICAGO, Nov. 29.—The special meeting of the national committee of the Silver Republican party adjourned to-day to meet again at the call of the chairman, after having taken action that practically assures the fusion of the party with the Democratic and Populist parties, the endorsement of the Democratic platform and the presidential candidate of that party. The sub-committee appointed yesterday to decide on the most practicable date and place for holding the national convention, and also to report on matters of practical organization for the campaign, including the apportionment of delegates from the various states to the national convention, submitted its report to the committee to-day and after a lengthy discussion, its recommendations with one or two minor amendments were adopted. The sub-committee recommended that all of the matters in question be referred for action to the executive committee, of which former Senator Fred W. DuBois, of Idaho, is chairman.

Chairman Towne gave out the following official statement of the action of the committee:

A resolution was unanimously adopted that a national convention of the Silver party be held, and that the executive committee was instructed to confer with the Democratic and Populist national committees in an effort to secure, if possible, the holding of all three national conventions at the same time and place, and at the earliest practicable date, to the end that complete co-operation of the reform forces may be had. The executive committee was authorized to determine the number of delegates to the national convention, the same to be not less than 2,000, to arrange the basis of selection and to allot the representation from each state. It was decided that the call for the convention shall include as eligible to representation all those voters who heretofore, prior to 1896, or since, have acted politically with the Republican party but are bi-metallics and favor the unrestricted and independent coinage of both gold and silver at the present legal ratio, and who are opposed to the policy of extending the gold standard in the United States by retiring the greenbacks, destroying the full money power of the existing silver dollar, providing for the payment of all government obligations and the redemption of all forms of paper money in gold alone and surrendering to a banking combination the sovereign function of issuing paper money.

Pledges were made covering the expenses of holding the national convention and Hon. Elwood S. Corser, of Minneapolis, was chosen treasurer of the committee with instructions to maintain relations of practical co-operation with the Democratic and Populist national committees.

ADVANCED SCALE

And Recognition of Flint Glass Workers' Union.

PITTSBURGH, Pa., Nov. 29.—At a conference which has lasted several days, the National Glass Company, otherwise known as the tabernacle combine, to-night, granted unexpected concessions to the American Flint Glass Workers' Union, which insures the men a mutual advance and recognition of the union by the manufacturers. The original demand of the workers was for a 10 per cent advance on the pressed ware scale and recognition. The agreement reached to-night gives to all workers an advance of at least 5 per cent and recognition of the union. It was agreed that non-union men should receive advances ranging from 10 to 30 per cent, in order to put their wages on an equality with the union men. Over 3,000 men are affected by the settlement and a protracted strike has been averted.

MANHATTAN LINES

Will Soon Run Electric Trains in New York.

NEW YORK, Nov. 29.—After the meeting of the executive committee of the Manhattan Railway Company to-day, President Gould said that a contract had been awarded to the Westinghouse Electric Company for a new power house and apparatus for substations, which, with the contracts already given for engines, boilers, etc., practically completes the material required for the stationary installation. Mr. Gould said that the first of the large dynamos was due for delivery in ten months from date, so that it was reasonable to expect that the public would see electric trains running on a portion of the Manhattan system within the coming year.

FRENCH IRON FOUNDERS

Call on the French Ministry of Commerce.

PARIS, Nov. 29.—A deputation of the iron founders' association headed by Senator Cordelet, visited to-day on the minister of commerce, M. Millerand, with reference to the new Franco-American treaty. Attention was drawn to the effect American competition would have on the iron industry of France, which, it was claimed, even under the general tariff, was seriously handicapped. The minister replied, promising to carefully investigate the claims of the iron founders.

ROBERTS OF UTAH.

May be Sworn in on His Certificate, and Can Only be Unseated by a Resolution of Expulsion Under the Constitutional Power of the House.

NEW YORK, Nov. 29.—A special to the Herald from Washington says: "The method of procedure to be adopted by the house of representatives in getting rid of Mr. Roberts, the polygamist representative-elect from Utah, is to be considered at a conference of Republican leaders to be held Friday, in the room of the committee on interstate and foreign commerce."

This conference has been passed by Representative Hepburn, of Iowa, who has devoted considerable attention to the case. Among those who will participate will be Representatives Payne, of New York, Daisell, of Pennsylvania, and Grosvenor and Taylor, of Ohio. Mr. Taylor was the chairman of the committee on elections in the last Congress to which were referred all the petitions and protests against the seating of Mr. Roberts received before the adjournment in March. At the request of Mr. Henderson, he has been making a careful study of the case and of precedents. He is not willing to discuss it in any way, however, at this stage of the proceedings.

Former Speaker Garfield and Mr. Harry H. Smith, the parliamentary expert, two of the counsel retained to represent the opposition to seating Mr. Roberts, will present the result of their investigations as to precedents at Friday's conference. Mr. Smith has made a careful and exhaustive study of all the precedents since the foundation of the government. It has resulted in his reaching the conclusion that Mr. Roberts must be sworn in on his certificate of election, and that he can only be unseated by a resolution of expulsion under the constitutional power of the house to expel a member by a two-thirds vote.

IRON AND STEEL.

Believed That the Top-Notch in Values Has Been Reported, but the Outlook for 1900 is Good.

PITTSBURGH, Pa., Nov. 29.—The American Manufacturer to-morrow will say:

"The past week has been one of calm in every branch of the iron and steel industries, if the sub-divisions of machinery, etc., are excepted. With next year's ore rate fixed on the basis of \$5.50, Bessemer pig quoted for the third quarter of 1900 at \$23.80 at the furnace, the prevailing quotations on billets for delivery during the same time (\$24 and \$25) is not likely to be shaved. But with so much business cleared off this year, it is almost impossible for future conditions to approach the present high pressure. The spreading out of orders for raw and finished materials over so large a portion of 1900 gives the cue to a permanent, or at least a temporary, reduction in prices, though they may be higher than many believe absolutely essential to producers."

Foundry irons are probably the most active raw material, but so much of the new year's production has been sold that even the actual transactions are not significant. In Bessemer little iron has changed hands except in several lots of from 3,000 to 5,000 tons for immediate use. Southern pig iron at ruling prices at furnace, may be said to be actually out of this market. A moderate volume of business has been done in the east in iron and steel during the past few days. Inquiries are falling off, but there is nothing to ever discouraging in the situation. The opinion among buyers that the top-notch of values has been reported. They are therefore, deferring purchases as long as possible. Makers are not weakening, the absence of customers being a relief rather than otherwise. Freight rates on southern pig iron, it is reported, will advance fifteen cents to \$4.90, January 1.

The tendency of southern manufacturers of looking for higher prices has again been set back by a comparatively dull week to ten days of business. The market is strong enough, but there is no change in the quotations of the past month, with No. 2 at \$17.50 to \$18.00. At Birmingham, iron bars have declined in strength, though the reduction in price is only a shade. Steel bars, on the other hand, are stronger, and the quotations have advanced from \$2.40 and \$2.60 to \$2.50 and \$2.75. Boiler and tank plates, and sheets are not up to the recent strength and are lower in price.

WESTERN UNION

Tariffs Reduced—New Cable to Havana Has Been Laid.

NEW YORK, Nov. 29.—The Western Union Telegraph Company announces that on and after December 1, 1899, its rate on telegraphic messages between Havana, Cuba, and New York, and all places east of the Mississippi river, including St. Louis and Minneapolis, will be 15 cents per word, and that the rate to all other places west of the Mississippi river will be 20 cents per word. The present rates are respectively 25 and 35 cents per word.

The company adds that it has just completed the laying of a new three-conductor cable between Miami, Florida, and Key West, and a new cable thence to Havana. Contracts for these new cables were under consideration when the Spanish-American war broke out, but were necessarily held over until peace was declared. It is also stated that these reductions are in line with the policy of the company which has been to keep its tariffs as low as the traffic has warranted. The prolonged insurrection interfered seriously with all commerce in Cuba, and telegraphic traffic suffered even still more seriously during the war. Through all that period of depression the International Ocean Telegraph Company and the Western Union Telegraph Company maintained an unimpaired communication with Cuba. These companies have now made a large outlay of money to provide amply for the most sanguine development, although the present traffic is stated to be below its normal volume during any previous time of peace.

Weather Forecast for To-day.

For West Virginia—Thursday: Friday, fair; cooler; southerly winds, shifting to northerly Friday.

For Western Pennsylvania—Showers Thursday; Friday, fair; probable showers, southerly winds, becoming northerly Friday.

For Ohio—Fair Thursday and Friday, except showers Thursday in northeastern corner, probably cooler Friday; fresh southerly winds, becoming northwesterly Friday.

Local Temperature.

The temperature yesterday, as observed by C. Schenep, druggist, corner Market and Fourteenth streets, was as follows: 7 a. m., 33; 8 a. m., 32; 9 a. m., 31; 10 a. m., 30; 11 a. m., 29; 12 m., 28; 1 p. m., 27; 2 p. m., 26; 3 p. m., 25; 4 p. m., 24; 5 p. m., 23; 6 p. m., 22; 7 p. m., 21; 8 p. m., 20; 9 p. m., 19; 10 p. m., 18; 11 p. m., 17; 12 m., 16.